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# Selected Speeches and News Releases

September 22 - October 6, 1988

## IN THIS ISSUE:

### News Releases—

Payments Begin Oct. 3 for USDA Drought Aid Programs

FCIC Extends Closing Date on Winter Wheat Insurance Sales

Food Stamp Benefits to be Handled by Electronic Benefit Transfer

States Receive \$212 Million in Interim National Forest Payments

USDA Announces Aid for Drought-Stricken Crop Farmers

USDA Announces Market Stabilization Price for Sugar

USDA Releases Cost of Food at Home for August

USDA Announces 1989 Feed Grain Program Provisions

1987 Crop Corn, Sorghum Producers to Receive Final Payments

USDA Nutrition Education Program Marks 20th Anniversary

CCC Interest Rate for October 8-1/8 Percent

CRP Participants Due \$1.2 Billion

USDA Announces 1988-Crop Additional Peanut Poundage Contracts

USDA Announces Prevailing World Market Rice Prices

USDA-Developed Grasshopper Control Being Sold and Used in West

New Facility Will Help Answer "What Should I Feed My Child?"

Forest Service Will Accept Donations for Fire Recovery Efforts



# News Releases

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U.S. Department of Agriculture • Office of Information

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## **PAYMENTS BEGIN OCT. 3 FOR USDA DROUGHT AID PROGRAMS**

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22—Secretary of Agriculture Richard E. Lyng today announced that producers may begin receiving drought aid payments Oct. 3 at Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service county offices.

The aid was made available by the Disaster Assistance Act of 1988 which was signed Aug. 11 by President Reagan. Lyng reminded livestock and crop producers to organize their production data and evidence in advance to speed payment for qualified drought-related damage.

“ASCS will administer the programs for the Commodity Credit Corporation and everything will be in place by the end of September,” Lyng said. “The forms, regulations and procedures, computer software, and training of ASCS employees are nearing completion.”

Program details will be published in the Federal Register, Lyng said.

Robert Feist (202) 447-6789

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## **FCIC EXTENDS CLOSING DATE ON WINTER WHEAT INSURANCE SALES**

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23—The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Federal Crop Insurance Corporation today extended the sales closing date for all 1989 winter wheat insurance until Oct. 31.

FCIC Manager John Marshall said the action was taken to provide winter wheat producers the opportunity to comply with the intent of the Disaster Assistance Act of 1988.

The act requires that producers receiving disaster benefits based on losses exceeding 65 percent of a crop carry insurance on that crop for the 1989 crop year. USDA’s Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service will not begin accepting applications for disaster assistance benefits until after the normal winter wheat sales closing date of Sept. 30. Today’s extension of the closing date from Sept. 30 to Oct. 31 will



accommodate the crop-insurance purchase requirement of the act where appropriate.

ASCS Administrator Milton Hertz said the agency's county offices would be prepared to assist producers in evaluating their level of loss and the applicability of the insurance provision. "We intend to see that the provisions of the law are met and we appreciate FCIC's flexibility in the effort to meet the insurance requirement," he said.

The payment received under the relief legislation is forfeited unless the crop insurance provision is met, where applicable. Winter wheat producers are urged to review their situation with their ASCS office as soon as practicable after applications begin to be accepted.

Marshall said that "the crop insurance program recognizes the interest of the Congress in emphasizing the role of crop insurance as the appropriate risk management tool for producers. We are pleased to make this adjustment this year to meet the spirit of the disaster relief law."

Michael Forgash (202) 447-3878

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## **FOOD STAMP BENEFITS TO BE HANDLED BY ELECTRONIC BENEFIT TRANSFER**

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26—The U.S. Department of Agriculture today awarded three test projects that will allow food stamp recipients in parts of Arizona, New Mexico and Minnesota to buy food with plastic, magnetic-strip cards rather than food stamp coupons.

"Nearly 30,000 households in the three states will be taking advantage of these projects," said USDA's Assistant Secretary for Food and Consumer Services John W. Bode. "The purpose is to make the Food Stamp Program easier for people to use and to increase financial accountability by eliminating the problem of lost or stolen food stamp coupons."

The projects, funded by USDA at \$1.3 million, will operate by running the plastic cards through a computer terminal at the grocery check-out counter. The cost of the food will automatically be subtracted from the household's total monthly food stamp allotment. In addition, some of the food stamp recipients will be able to use the same plastic card to access other public benefits, such as Aid For Families With Dependent Children.

USDA first tested the use of electronic benefits in Reading, Pa. in 1984. The project, which involved 3,400 households, received high scores from food stamp recipients, grocery stores and banks (normally involved in issuing and redeeming food stamp coupons).

The program's evaluation suggested that administrative costs could be lowered if future projects were tied into other welfare programs or were developed in conjunction with already existing commercial debit systems. USDA used that criteria to select Arizona, New Mexico and Minnesota from the total of nine states that applied for the projects.

The pilot projects are scheduled to start within the next 8 to 12 months and run for at least three years. According to Bode, evaluation of these projects will help determine the potential nation-wide use of electronic funds systems instead of food stamp coupons. Under the projects:

—Arizona will receive \$580,853 in federal funds to design its project. The Arizona concept will be tested in Mesa with services to 6,500 households.

—Minnesota will receive \$385,309 in federal funds to design its project. The Minnesota concept will be tested in Ramsey County with services to 13,000 households.

—New Mexico will receive \$379,276 in federal funds to design its project. The New Mexico concept will be tested in Albuquerque with services to 10,150 households.

Gene Vincent (703) 756-3286

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## **STATES RECEIVE \$212 MILLION IN INTERIM NATIONAL FOREST PAYMENTS**

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26—Forty-one states and Puerto Rico will share interim payments totaling \$212 million as their portion of national forest receipts collected in fiscal 1988, F. Dale Robertson, chief of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, announced today.

“We estimate these states will eventually receive more than \$282 million as their complete shares of national forest receipts for the year,” Robertson said.

By law, the Forest Service pays 25 percent of the revenue it collects from timber sales, grazing, recreation, minerals and other land uses to states in which national forest lands are located. The funds are to be used

for schools and roads. Last year, the states received total payments of more than \$286 million.

The interim payments represent 75 percent of the estimated total amount each state will receive as its share of funds collected during the year from the sale and use of a wide variety of national forest products and services. USDA pays any additional funds it owes the states in December, after it determines the actual receipts for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30.

The interim payments do not reflect revenues collected from the national grasslands. National grassland receipts are calculated on a calendar year basis, and these funds are shared with the states in the spring.

The largest interim payments will go to: Oregon, \$100 million; California, \$40 million; Washington, \$28 million; and Idaho, \$6.5 million.

Interim payments and the estimated total 1988 amounts for each state are listed in the following table.

**Interim and Estimated Total State Payments for National Forest Receipts**

(Fiscal Year 1988)

State	Interim Payment	Estimated Total Payment
Alabama	\$1,061,062.52	\$1,414,750.03
Alaska	166,353.77	221,805.02
Arizona	5,161,659.19	6,882,212.25
Arkansas	2,708,381.11	3,611,174.81
California	39,962,108.09	53,282,810.78
Colorado	1,928,132.19	2,570,842.92
Florida	1,213,687.52	1,618,250.02
Georgia	437,437.52	583,250.02
Idaho	6,529,479.18	8,705,972.24
Illinois	63,946.89	85,262.52
Indiana	45,965.25	61,287.00
Kentucky	347,093.08	462,790.77
Louisiana	1,417,539.58	1,890,052.77



Maine	18,540.77	24,721.03
Michigan	426,646.88	568,862.51
Minnesota	853,982.75	1,138,643.66
Mississippi	3,829,216.93	5,105,622.57
Missouri	1,418,362.52	1,891,150.02
Montana	5,169,015.39	6,892,020.52
Nebraska	23,995.88	31,994.50
Nevada	207,396.56	276,528.75
New Hampshire	269,496.80	359,329.06
New Mexico	1,638,561.45	2,184,748.60
New York	2,062.51	2,750.01
North Carolina	378,073.67	504,098.22
North Dakota	49.95	66.60
Ohio	63,300.00	84,400.00
Oklahoma	347,487.16	463,316.21
Oregon	100,458,092.57	133,944,123.43
Pennsylvania	1,463,943.76	1,951,925.01
South Carolina	1,230,866.81	1,641,155.74
South Dakota	685,471.97	913,962.63
Tennessee	228,264.38	304,352.51
Texas	1,997,737.72	2,663,650.29
Utah	801,179.67	1,068,239.56
Vermont	103,743.77	138,325.03
Virginia	262,692.30	350,256.40
Washington	27,667,973.02	36,890,630.69
West Virginia	281,604.17	375,472.22
Wisconsin	226,481.24	301,974.99
Wyoming	962,389.84	1,283,186.45
Puerto Rico	7,522.52	10,030.02
Total	\$212,066,998.85	\$282,755,998.38

Diane Hitchings (202) 447-3772

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## USDA ANNOUNCES AID FOR DROUGHT-STRICKEN CROP FARMERS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26—Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Peter C. Myers today announced provisions of a program to aid farmers who suffered crop losses from this summer's widespread drought.

Emergency crop loss assistance is a major part of the multi-billion dollar package of federal aid made available by the Disaster Assistance Act of 1988.

The program provides for payments for losses in excess of 35 percent of production of specialized crops.

Highlights of the program are:

—Disaster payments will be available to eligible producers on losses which are greater than 35 percent of normal production. Producers with annual gross revenues \$2 million or less will be eligible for such payments.

Wheat, feed grains, cotton, rice and soybeans minimum yields have been established and, if production is equal to or less than this yield, any crop production will be considered zero.

—Eligible producers with crop losses greater than 65 percent must agree to purchase multiperil crop insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act for the 1989 crop for which disaster payments are made. This requirement may be waived by the county Agricultural Stabilization Committee under certain conditions.

—The total amount of payments and benefits a person may receive for combined crop and livestock emergency losses in 1988 may not exceed \$100,000. Emergency livestock program benefits may not exceed \$50,000 in any calendar year.

—Disaster applications for crop losses must be filed not later than March 31, 1989 at the county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service office, together with crop acreage reports and acceptable crop production evidence.

—Payments will be calculated by determining the amount of loss below 65 percent of normal production and multiplying the eligible loss by the applicable disaster payment rate.

—There are two payment levels: 90 percent of the payment rate for losses in excess of 75 percent of normal production and 65 percent of the payment rate for losses between 35 and 75 percent of normal production.

—For computing payments, the target price will be used for producers of wheat, feed grains, rice and upland and extra long staple cotton who are participating in the 1988 program and for producers who are not in these programs, the county loan rate will be used.

The basis for other payment rates are:

—For peanuts, the applicable price support level.

—For tobacco which receives price support, the national average loan rate for the type of tobacco involved.

—For sugar beets and sugarcane, the level of price support established by region for their 1988 crops.

—For soybeans and other eligible crops, the average commodity price received within a state for the previous five years excluding the high and low years.

The basis for payment yields are:

—For wheat, feed grains, upland and extra long staple cotton, rice and peanuts, the ASCS farm program payment yield.

—For sugarcane, sugar beets and tobacco, the county average yield for the previous five years excluding the high and low years.

—For soybeans, the average county yield for the three previous years after substituting the simple previous five-year average for any year the yield was less than the previous five-year average.

—For other eligible crops, proven yields based on actual production from the three previous years with the established county yield being used for any year that actual production evidence may be missing.

Participants in the annual programs for wheat, feed grains, upland cotton and rice will be allowed to retain advance deficiency payments for crop losses up to 35 percent of their normal production.

Robert Feist (202) 447-678

#

## **USDA ANNOUNCES MARKET STABILIZATION PRICE FOR SUGAR**

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29—Acting Under Secretary of Agriculture Richard W. Goldberg today announced the fiscal 1989 market stabilization price for raw sugar cane will be 21.80 cents per pound, raw value. The new price is up slightly from the 1988 level of 21.76 cents per pound.



The market stabilization price represents the price at or above which producers would be more likely to sell their sugar in the marketplace than to forfeit it to the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Commodity Credit Corporation. It also is used to calculate penalties and liabilities under quota-exempt sugar programs conducted by USDA.

The new market stabilization price is the sum of the price support loan rate for fiscal 1989 (18 cents per pound), the adjusted average transportation costs for shipping raw cane sugar (2.97 cents per pound), interest costs of repaying a sugar price support loan at full maturity (.63 cent per pound) plus two-tenths of a cent per pound. The procedure for calculating the market stabilization price is specified in the Code of Federal Regulations.

Sally Klusaritz (202) 447-3448

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USDA RELEASES COST OF FOOD AT HOME FOR AUGUST

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29—Here is the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s monthly update of the weekly cost of food at home for August 1988.

Cost of food at home for a week in August 1988

	-----Food plans----- (In Dollars)			
	Thrifty	Low-cost	Moderate cost	Liberal
Families:				
Family of 2 (20-50 years)	42.20	53.30	65.90	81.80
Family of 2 (51 years and over)	40.00	51.20	63.40	75.90
Family of 4 with preschool children	61.50	76.70	93.80	115.30
Family of 4 with elemen- tary school children	70.60	90.20	112.80	136.00



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Individuals in  
four-person families:

Children:

1-2 years	11.10	13.50	15.70	19.00
3-5 years	12.00	14.70	18.20	21.90
6-8 years	14.70	19.50	24.40	28.50
9-11 years	17.50	22.20	28.50	33.10

Females:

12-19 years	18.10	21.70	26.40	31.90
20-50 years	18.20	22.70	27.60	35.30
51 and over	18.00	22.00	27.30	32.70

Males:

12-14 years	18.20	25.10	31.40	36.80
15-19 years	18.90	26.00	32.20	37.40
20-50 years	20.20	25.80	32.30	39.10
51 and over	18.40	24.50	30.30	36.30

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USDA's Human Nutrition Information Service computes the cost of food at home for four food plans—thrifty, low-cost, moderate-cost, and liberal.

Suzanne S. Harris, Ph.D., deputy assistant secretary for food and consumer services, said the plans consist of foods that provide well-balanced meals and snacks for a week.

In computing the costs, USDA assumes all food is bought at the store and prepared at home. Costs do not include alcoholic beverages, pet food, soap, cigarettes, paper goods, and other nonfood items bought at the store.

“USDA costs are only guides to spending,” Harris said. “Families may spend more or less, depending on such factors as where they buy their food, how carefully they plan and buy, whether some food is produced at home, what foods the family likes, and how much food is prepared at home.

“Most families will find the moderate-cost or low-cost plan suitable,” she said. “The thrifty plan, which USDA uses to set the coupon

allotment in the food stamp program, is for families who have tighter budgets. Families with unlimited resources might use the liberal plan.”

To use the chart to estimate your family’s food costs:

—For members eating all meals at home—or carried from home—use the amounts shown in the chart.

—For members eating some meals out, deduct 5 percent from the amount shown for each meal not eaten at home. Thus, for a person eating lunch out 5 days a week, subtract 25 percent, or one-fourth the cost shown.

—For guests, add 5 percent of the amount shown for the proper age group for each meal.

Costs in the second part of the chart are for individuals in four-person families. If your family has more or less than four, total the “individual” figures and make these adjustments, because larger families tend to buy and use food more economically than smaller ones:

—For a one-person family, add 20 percent.

—For a two-person family, add 10 percent.

—For a three-person family, add 5 percent.

—For a five or six-person family, subtract 5 percent.

—For a family of seven or more, subtract 10 percent.

Details of the four family food plans are available from the Nutrition Education Division, Human Nutrition Information Service, USDA, Federal Building, Hyattsville, Md. 20782.

Johna Pierce (202) 436-8617

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## **USDA ANNOUNCES 1989 FEED GRAIN PROGRAM PROVISIONS**

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30—Secretary of Agriculture Richard E. Lyng today announced a 10-percent acreage reduction (ARP) for 1989 crop corn, grain sorghum and barley and a 5-percent ARP for 1989 crop oats.

The 1989 crop corn, sorghum and barley ARP’s are reduced from the 20-percent ARP set for the 1988 crop while the oats ARP remains the same as the 1988 crop.

Other provisions of the 1989 feed grain program include:

—Target prices established per bushel are \$2.84 for corn, \$2.70 for sorghum (\$4.82 per hundredweight), \$2.43 for barley and \$1.50 for oats.

—Loan and purchase rates per bushel are \$1.65 for corn, \$1.57 for sorghum (\$2.80 per hundredweight), \$1.34 for barley, \$0.85 for oats and \$1.40 for rye.

—No marketing loan program for feed grains will be implemented.

—Malting barley will not be exempt from the acreage limitation requirements established for the 1989 barley program.

—Oats will not be subject to the limited cross compliance provisions.

—There will not be a paid land diversion program.

Common program provisions that apply to the 1989 feed grains, wheat, upland cotton and rice programs were announced on June 14.

Signup dates and other details for the 1989 feed grain program will be announced later.

Robert Feist (202) 447-6789

#

## **1987 CROP CORN, SORGHUM PRODUCERS TO RECEIVE FINAL PAYMENTS**

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30—Milton Hertz, executive vice president of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Commodity Credit Corporation, announced today that eligible producers of 1987 crop corn and sorghum will receive approximately \$2 billion in final payments.

Corn producers will receive about \$1.8 billion and sorghum producers about \$200 million in final payments for their 1987 crops, Hertz said.

The final payments, combined with advance payments made during program signup and additional payments made in March, will result in 1987 total program payments of approximately \$5.8 billion for corn producers and \$575 million for sorghum producers.

Hertz said the final corn and sorghum payments will be paid half in cash and half in generic commodity certificates.

The 1987 final payment rate is 34 cents per bushel for corn and 43 cents per bushel for sorghum.

The final payments for corn and sorghum will be mailed in early October by the county offices of the USDA's Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

Robert Feist (202) 447-6789

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## **USDA NUTRITION EDUCATION PROGRAM MARKS 20th ANNIVERSARY**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 3—Government officials, program recipients, aides and volunteers today marked the 20th year of the Expanded Food and Nutrition Program (EFNEP) in ceremonies at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The program, administered by USDA's Extension Service, helps low-income families, especially those with young children, improve their diets.

“Since 1968, some 21 million individuals have learned good nutrition practices through the help of EFNEP educators,” ES Administrator Myron D. Johnsrud said. Program facilitators are trained and supervised by Extension Service professionals at land-grant universities throughout the nation.

“Success of the program has depended heavily on a network of 41,000 volunteers and 4,000 program aides. They are to be congratulated on a job well done, along with the recipients who have responded so well to the program,” Johnsrud said.

USDA studies evaluating EFNEP indicate participants have increased their knowledge of nutrition and learned how to buy and prepare more nutritious and economical meals. Of the approximate 1 million annual EFNEP participants, 64 percent of the families are enrolled in the USDA's food stamp program and 75 percent of these families' children are in child nutrition programs.

Twenty-three EFNEP aides, volunteers, and program participants took part in today's event. Johnsrud recognized individuals from: Arizona, Florida, Hawaii, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Puerto Rico and Virginia.

Betty Fleming (202) 382-0348

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## **CCC INTEREST RATE FOR OCTOBER 8-1/8 PERCENT**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 3—Commodity loans disbursed in October by the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Commodity Credit Corporation will carry a 8-1/8 percent interest rate, according to Milton Hertz, CCC executive vice president.



The new rate, up from September's 8 percent, reflects the interest rate charged CCC by the U.S. Treasury in October.

Bruce Merkle (202) 447-6787

#

**CRP PARTICIPANTS DUE \$1.2 BILLION**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4—The U.S. Department of Agriculture said today it will issue approximately \$1.2 billion in cash payments to producers participating in the Conservation Reserve Program.

Milton Hertz, executive vice president of USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation, said the annual rental payments are for contracts producers signed in fiscal years 1986, 1987 and 1988 to place cropland in the CRP.

Under the CRP, producers agree to retire highly erodible cropland from production for 10 years. In return, USDA contracts for annual rental payments to the producers and shares with them the cost of establishing an approved vegetative cover.

Payments will be made as soon as possible.

Bruce Merkle (202) 447-6787

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**USDA ANNOUNCES 1988-CROP ADDITIONAL PEANUT POUNDAGE CONTRACTS**

WASHINGTON, Oct.4—The U.S. Department of Agriculture today released figures provided to the Commodity Credit Corporation which show the quantity of peanuts contracted by growing area for the 1988 crop is 667,112 short tons.

By growing area, the quantities are:

Southeast	994,725,125 pounds
Virginia/Carolina	177,581,185 pounds
Southwest	161,918,032 pounds

Bruce Merkle (202) 447-6787.

#

## **USDA ANNOUNCES PREVAILING WORLD MARKET RICE PRICES**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4—Acting Under Secretary of Agriculture Richard W. Goldberg today announced the prevailing world market prices of milled rice, loan rate basis, as follows:

- long grain whole kernels, 10.30 cents per pound;
- medium grain whole kernels, 9.43 cents per pound;
- short grain whole kernels, 9.34 cents per pound;
- broken kernels, 5.15 cents per pound.

Minimum loan repayment rates for 1987-crop loans are the higher of the world price or 50 percent of the loan rate. For 1988-crop rice, the minimum repayment rates are the higher of the world price or 60 percent of the loan rate.

Based upon these prevailing world market prices for milled rice, rough rice world prices are estimated to be:

- long grain, \$6.19 per hundredweight;
- medium grain, \$5.87 per hundredweight;
- short grain, \$5.69 per hundredweight.

The prices announced are effective today at 3:00 P.M. EDT. The next scheduled price announcement will be made Oct. 11, 1988 at 3:00 P.M. EDT, although prices may be announced sooner if warranted.

Gene Rosera (202) 447-5954

#

## **USDA-DEVELOPED GRASSHOPPER CONTROL BEING SOLD AND USED IN WEST**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5—A grasshopper-killing parasite that got its start in a U.S. Department of Agriculture laboratory has made it to the field to provide a natural control of these pests.

Evans BioControl, Inc., of Broomfield, Colo., and Bozeman Bio Tech in Bozeman, Mont., have adapted USDA technology for producing and storing the parasite, *Nosema locustae*.

Studies done by scientists of the USDA's Agricultural Research Service showed the parasite kills 50-60 percent of grasshoppers in 3-4 weeks.

The tests and development of commercial methods to produce and store the organism were done by J. E. Henry and colleagues at the Rangeland

Insect Laboratory in Bozeman, Mont., as part of an ARS-wide effort to bring natural pest controls into fields.

Now the parasite is being sold to homeowners and ranchers through regional agents and on contract to government agencies, which use it on a wide scale in the West. Grasshoppers devastate grass and crops, costing ranchers, farmers, government agencies and homeowners about \$400 million a year, Henry said.

Spores of the parasite are put on wheat bran flakes to form a bait, which appeals to a grasshopper's palate. "After a grasshopper digests the bait, the organism attacks the pest's fat cells and depletes its energy stores," he said.

*N. locustae* stays in the grasshopper population because sick females pass it to their offspring and survivors cannibalize dead relatives, according to Henry.

Meanwhile, ARS also has signed a technology transfer agreement with Evans Biocontrol to field test another grasshopper killer, a grasshopper entomopoxvirus.

In lab tests, the virus kills 20-30 percent of grasshoppers right away and stunts the growth of another 20-30 percent. Scientists believe this group of stunted insects stop eating right away and would probably die in the field.

Doug A. Streett, entomologist at the research agency's lab in Bozeman, has supplied virus to the company. Evans will produce it and mix it with the *N. locustae* and test the two together on 1,000 acres in the West.

"By putting the two together, we hope to overcome the parasite's one drawback: it can take three to four weeks to kill the grasshoppers," Streett said, pointing out that farmers and ranchers may want faster action. The ARS scientists hope the virus can knock down the population in the short-term and then let the parasite take over.

Jessica A. Morrison (301) 344-3927

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## **NEW FACILITY WILL HELP ANSWER "WHAT SHOULD I FEED MY CHILD?"**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6—Infants and children will be the winners when the U.S. Department of Agriculture dedicates its new \$55 million facility



to house the Children's Nutrition Research Center tomorrow in Houston, Texas.

The Oct. 7 dedication coincides with the tenth year of research at the center. It is the nation's only facility devoted to defining the nutrition that will ensure health of children from conception through adolescence.

The research, directed and funded by USDA's Agricultural Research Service, is conducted by scientists with Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children's Hospital.

"We are proud of USDA's role, in conjunction with the efforts of many others, in bringing the dream of this new center to a reality. It reemphasizes USDA's commitment to the goal of improved human nutrition and the increased understanding of diet-health relationships," said Robert W. Long, USDA deputy assistant secretary for science and education. He will represent the department at the ceremonies, scheduled to begin at noon tomorrow.

ARS associate administrator Mary E. Carter said, "Now that the center has a home worthy of its mission, the research program can expand to answer the most pressing questions in child nutrition. And there are many."

According to Gerald Combs, who oversees the agency's nutrition research, center scientists have already contributed significantly in the last 10 years and their findings are beginning to influence infant formulas, infant feeding practices and national norms for energy requirements.

The dedication will be followed by a luncheon and tours. In addition to eight floors of research labs, the 11-story facility has conference rooms, a 200-seat lecture auditorium and 12 private rooms for mothers and their babies participating in "live-in" studies. The facility is one of five nutrition research centers operated by the Agricultural Research Service.

Judy McBride (301) 344-4095

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## **FOREST SERVICE WILL ACCEPT DONATIONS FOR FIRE RECOVERY EFFORTS**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6—In response to offers from individuals and groups who want to help reforest areas burned by wildfire this summer, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has set up the Greater Yellowstone



Area Recovery Fund, F. Dale Robertson, chief of USDA's Forest Service, announced today.

This fire season, 13 major fires burned 1.6 million acres in the greater Yellowstone area, including 566,508 acres on national forests. This area includes parts of Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana.

Those interested in donating to the recovery effort should send their contributions to: Forest Service, 11177 West 8th Ave., Lakewood, Colo. 80225-0127. Checks should be made out to "USDA-Forest Service," and "Greater Yellowstone Area Recovery Fund" should be specified on the check.

Donations will be used for cleanup operations and to collect local seed, grow seedlings, plant trees, control erosion, and repair damaged facilities, Robertson said.

Those wishing to offer donations to help fire recovery efforts on national forests in other areas of the country, may do so by contacting the Forest Service's public affairs office in Washington, D.C., or individual national forests. The public affairs office address is P.O. Box 96090, Washington, D.C. 20090-6090, telephone (202) 447-3760.

"We also have received many offers of seeds and seedlings," Robertson said. "Unfortunately, we usually cannot accept these because the tree species offered is not native to the local area and would not survive."

Those wishing to volunteer to help with fire recovery efforts may also contact national forests in their areas, or the public affairs office in Washington, D.C.

National Forest officials will be determining where volunteers will be needed.

Rose Narlock (202) 475-3778

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